

IAM

News

VOLUME 12 • ISSUE #2

FALL, 2005

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

NEW IAM BOARD MEMBERS

The Nominating Committee of the Illinois Association of Museums has developed a slate of nominees to the IAM Board of Directors for approval at the Annual Conference. The President has also made two appointments to fill vacancies. The nominees and appointees are as follows:

President – Class of 2007: David Oberg, Rockford Public Library

Vice President – Class of 2007: David Becker, Brookfield Zoo

Director at Large – Class of 2008: Debra Tayes, Southern Illinois Art Gallery, Illinois State Museum, Whittington

Director at Large – Class of 2007: (Appointment): Elizabeth “Beau” Vallance, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb

Director Region 1 – Class of 2008: Pam Madden, The Science Center, Carbondale

Director Region 2 – Class of 2008: Michael Watts, The Tarble Arts Center, Charleston

Director Region 2 – Class of 2007: (Appointment): Norman Wingler, Prairie Aviation Museum, Bloomington

Director Region 3 – Class of 2008: Kate N. Schureman, Lakeview Museum, Peoria

Director Region 4 – Class of 2008: Beth Carvey-Stewart, Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island

Director Region 5 – Class of 2008: Brian Hora, Haines House Museum, Waukegan

The election will be held on October 13th at the Annual Meeting Luncheon at the Hilton Garden Hotel in St. Charles. Please join me in welcoming and getting to know our new board members.

IAM 2005 AWARD WINNERS

Two individuals and thirty-four museums will be honored at the Illinois Association of Museums Awards Banquet at Annual Conference on October 14, 2005. The luncheon will be held at the Historic Hotel Baker in St. Charles starting at noon. Dr. Robert E. Sterling of the Joliet Area Historical Museum will receive the Volunteer of the Year Award for his work on behalf of the Joliet museum. Susan Belden of Historic Vandalia, Inc. will receive a Silver Service Award for her twenty five years as a volunteer docent at the Vandalia museum.

Institutional winners are as follows:

Building and Site Preservation

Superior Achievement Award

Hinsdale Historical Society, Hinsdale
The Zook House Preservation Project

Educational Programming

Superior Achievement Award

Raupp Museum, Buffalo Grove
Tiny Traders

Award of Excellence

David Davis State Historic Site,
Bloomington
Dave & Abe's Great Adventure

Preservation Partners of the Fox Valley,
Geneva

*Kids' Programs – Fabyan Villa
Museum*

Exhibits

Superior Achievement

Lake County Discovery Museum,
Wauconda
Sweetness: The Walter Payton Story

Midway Village and Museum Center,
Rockford
*For Lincoln and Liberty: Winnebago
County in the Civil War*

Award of Excellence

Aurora Historical Society, Aurora
Quilts: Layers of Tradition

Elmhurst Historical Museum, Elmhurst
Lee Sturges: Points of View

Lake County Discovery Museum,
Wauconda
Bonner Heritage Farm

Lewis and Clark State Historic Site,
Hartford
Over the River and Through the Woods

Raupp Museum, Buffalo Grove
From Farm to Fortune

University Museum, Southern Illinois
University at Carbondale
Words, Wood and Wire

Wheaton Center for History, Wheaton
*The Eastland Disaster: Chicago's
Titanic*

Award of Merit

Naper Settlement, Naperville
*People and Places: Matie Egermann's
World Doll Collection*

(Cont'd on the back)

Illinois Association of Museums

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Join the IAM List Serve at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IAM_ListServ/>

IAM News (ISSN 1076-9269) is a quarterly newsletter published for its members by the Illinois Association of Museums. Subscriptions to *IAM News* are available through membership in the Association.

The Illinois Association of Museums, organized in 1994, is composed of museums, historical and genealogical societies, zoos, arboreta, and other cultural and educational agencies in Illinois that are involved in preservation and interpretation of history, prehistory, natural and built environments, and social, scientific, cultural, and/or artistic endeavors.

Change of address notices, undeliverable copies, editorial correspondence, and membership application should be sent to the address above. The news media may use any material in this publication when *IAM News* is credited. Third class postage paid at Springfield, Illinois.

NEW ONLINE RESOURCES

IAM is pleased to announce the addition of information and resources on topics such as administration, artifact storage and packing, conservation and preservation, education, exhibits, fundraising and grants, legislation and advocacy, security and disaster preparedness, technology, and volunteers to the web site. The information is web-based and includes links to other sites and online documents.

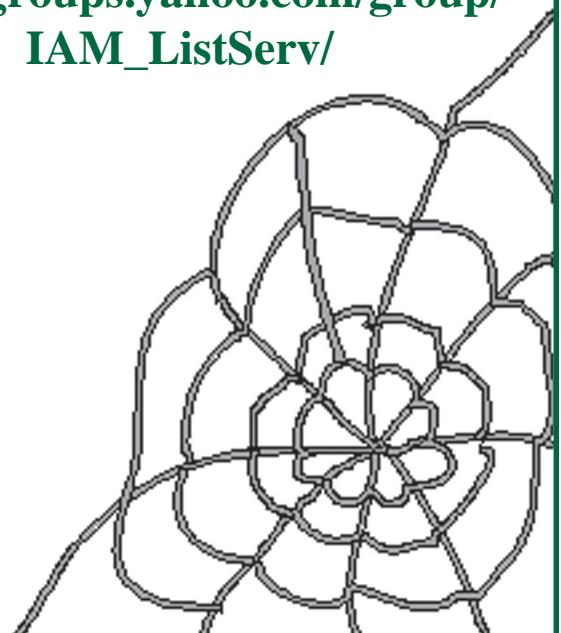
There is more information and assistance available from your colleagues across the state. Join the IAM List Serve and communicate with your peers quickly and easily. Have a question about exhibit service providers or need suggestions on payroll software? Send an email to the List Serve for immediate help from other museum professionals and volunteers. Also posted on the list serve are grant opportunities, learning resources, advocacy issues, job openings, and other timely topics that can't wait for the newsletter.

Next time you're online, visit the website and let us know what you think of the new additions.

www.illinoismuseums.org

Join the list serve at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IAM_ListServ/



THE PEOPLE, THE CULTURE, THE TIME = THE PLACE: A FORMULA FOR INTERPRETIVE SUCCESS

Historic sites and other state and locally run cultural institutions, endeavor to develop and create effective interpretive programs that provide a meaningful and informative experience for our visiting public. The old axiom nobody can tell your story like you hopefully is true. We should tell our story with creative candor and simplicity, always flexible and receptive to new interpretive approaches and formats. The story may not change but the way we tell it can and should. Expanding our interpretive focus is a liberating experience and opens up many creative options and avenues for communication.

History comes alive when the component parts of any story are studied and imbued with meaning and presented to the public in a creative and meaningful manner. Just as a piece of fabric is comprised of differing hues, colors, and textures of threads that when woven together give it its unique design and appearance, so too the historic site is the sum of its disparate parts. When taken together, lucid images appear and quantifiable facts emerge. These images and facts form the building blocks for accurate and informative interpretation. How we creatively and imaginatively arrange these elements predetermines its interpretive success. If we have communicated our information in a cohesive and unified manner, our chances for successful interpretation increase.

Step back and ask yourself, is the public, your public, engaged with the information you are presenting? Does it have meaning or value to them? Are they asking questions or seeking additional information? Interpretive evaluation is a continual process and one that is necessary to determine if your story is being accurately told and received by the public. Assessing the viability of your interpretive program is ongoing. It may be necessary to simplify or add to the historical message or to streamline the vehicle you use to convey the subject. Remember, it is not our job to tell every last detail of the story. Books are available to provide more in-depth information. But, don't use this as an excuse for not developing interesting and informative interpretation predicated on factual information.

Every interpretive message requires a systematic plan based upon a unified and predetermined organizing principle. This enables the planning team to meet the stated interpretive agenda and the goals specific to the site. It provides the framework to develop instructive interpretation to connect

the visitor with the historic past. Consider the interpretive message metaphorically as a bridge spanning time and space to connect your site with your public.

The ongoing challenge for site personnel is to openly and honestly critique all interpretive efforts and strive to view the site the way public views it. This is not an easy task, but not an impossible one either. Many times we need to break the mold of doing things the way we have always done them. Educator Rudolph Flesch states this concept very succinctly,

“Creative thinking may simply mean the realization that there's no particular virtue in doing things the way they have always been done.” This has never been more true than when planning an interpretive exhibit. An exhibit is a composed form of communication. It is an invaluable communicative device that supports and complements the staff's interpretive efforts. Exhibits are static and require a basic level of interest and interaction on the

part of the viewer. The success of an exhibit relies heavily on its ability to capture and hold the viewer's interest with the formatted interpretive message.

Effective communication is central to everything we do. It strengthens your bond with your public and guarantees that the visitor will learn new information and gain a broader understanding and perspective concerning the site. Good communications strengthens your bond with your public. Too often we accept the notion that an exhibit involves only a linear construct. We have adopted this largely because the Western approach to history has been based on a linear progression of dates and events. This date-driven approach, where event follows event, has merit but often fails to tell the entire story in a cohesive and understandable manner.

One alternative method to the linear format is the thematic approach to exhibit design and is based upon the various components or themes that support the historical story. Every big story is essentially constructed of smaller ones. Every small story reinforces and supports the big story. When taken together they form a more complete and informative interpretive message. This design and organizational format encourages the visitor to interact with the interpretive themes and vignettes presented in the exhibit. It is more inclusive and immersive in content, and allows the visitor to more easily grasp historical themes and messages.

by
Steve Leonard,
Exhibit Designer,
Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency

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LEARNING RESOURCES

NOTE TO IAM INDIVIDUAL AND INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS: IAM scholarship funds are available to attend these and other workshops and conferences. For more information or an application please contact our office or visit the website.

ATTEND THE IAM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The IAM Annual Conference is slated for October 12-14, 2005, in the beautiful Fox Valley Tri-Cities of Batavia, Geneva, and St. Charles at the St. Charles Hilton Garden Inn. Highlights include a visit to Fermi Lab and the historic Hotel Baker.

Fertile Ground: Cultivating Cultural Resources for Museums



This year's keynote speaker will be Ida Tomlin, COO of The New Detroit Science Center and Association of Midwest Museums board member. Pre-conference workshops address such issues as using cultural history as a tool for tourism, exhibit design, stabilizing and preserving the potential of historic

properties, and housekeeping of collections. Participants may also choose from a good variety of sessions including "Home Schooling in the Museum," "Cultivating the Fertile Ground of a Museum Store," "Ripe for the Picking - Using Visitor Input to Shape Decisions," and "Growing Your Exhibit." Walk-ins are welcome. Visit our website at <www.illinois museums.org> or call 217/524-7080 for more information.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS OFFERS SEMINAR

The American Association of Museums will offer a seminar entitled "Identity and Perception: Building Your Museum's Brand Inside and Out" on November 4-5, 2005, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Two days will be spent exploring ways in which a museum shapes its identity through internal

interactions, partnerships, programming, and more. Experts from cultural, academic, and corporate institutions will offer tested strategies that will bring your museum's mission-driven identity and perception by others into alignment. Registration is \$295 for AAM Members and \$345 for Non-members. Registration includes participation in seminar sessions, handout materials, daily breaks, and one luncheon. **Registration closes on Friday, Oct. 21, 2005.** Call 202/289-9114 for more information.

AMM SCHEDULES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Association of Midwest Museums has scheduled its annual meeting entitled *Museums and Success* for October 26-28 at the beautiful, historic Hilton Netherland Plaza Hotel. In addition to outstanding speakers and sessions, the conference will provide attendees with an opportunity to visit the museums in Cincinnati, including the Center for Contemporary Art, the Cincinnati Museum Center (which houses the Cincinnati History Museum, the Cinergy Children's Museum, the Museum of Natural History & Science, the Robert D. Lindner Family OMNIMAX® Theater, and the Cincinnati Historical Society Library), the new National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, the Cincinnati Art Museum, and the recently renovated and expanded Taft Museum of Art. The meeting includes workshops and seminars such as "Building Museum/School Partnerships Through Project-Based Learning," "Are You Engaging Your Community? How to Measure Your Achievement," and "Collections Policy, Planning, and Profiling for Small Museums." For more information visit their website at <www.midwestmuseums.org>.

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NOTEWORTHY NEWS

HURRICANE KATRINA DAMAGES MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL SITES

By now we have all read about or seen coverage of the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina to the southern states of Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. It has impacted countless lives and businesses throughout the region. Many museums and cultural institutions were also affected by this disaster and some were completely devastated. Among those hardest hit were the Audubon Nature Institute in New Orleans, LA; Dantzler House, Biloxi, MS; Fort Pike State Historic Site in New Orleans, LA; Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans, LA; Marine Life Oceanarium, Gulfport, MS; Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum, Biloxi, MS; Pleasant Reed House, Biloxi, MS; Old Capitol Museum of Mississippi History, Jackson, MS; and Tullis-Toledano Manor, Biloxi, MS.

Several organizations are taking donations to aid the historical and cultural institutions of the region. The American Association for State and Local History is accepting donations to its Resources Recovery Fund on its website at <<http://www.aaslh.org/katrina4.htm>>. You may also donate to the National Trust for Historic Preservation by visiting its site at <<http://www.nationaltrust.org/index.html>>. For current information on the impact of Hurricane Katrina to museums and cultural institutions visit AAM's website at <<http://www.aam-us.org/aamlatest/news/hurricane.cfm>>. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those suffering in the hurricane's wake.

AASLH ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS

The AASLH Awards Program not only honors significant achievement in the field of local history, but also brings public recognition to small and large organizations, institutions, and programs that contribute to this arena. Awards from the 60th Annual Awards program include over eighty-five organizations and individuals.

Below is a list of winners from Illinois:

- **Ellwood House Museum**, DeKalb. Certificate of Commendation for the exhibit *Generations of Gentility: 150 Years of Ellwood Women*.
- **Geneva History Center**, Geneva. Certificate of Commendation for the exhibit *Greetings for Geneva: A Trip Through History*.

- **Illinois Historic Preservation Agency**, Springfield. Certificate of Commendation for the exhibit *Over the River and Through the Woods? Getting Around Southern Illinois*.

LEARNING FROM VISITORS: A NEW VISITOR SURVEY TOOL

Do people enjoy visiting your museum? Do you know if their visit exceeds their expectations or disappoints them? If they leave disappointed, do you have any idea why? Was it the exhibitions? Did they have difficulty finding the museum due to inadequate signage? Would answers to these questions help your museum correct problems and set goals as it develops its next strategic plan?

Do you know whether visitors feel they learned something from their visit to your museum? Would knowing how much visitors value your museum and its programs help with grant writing and fundraising efforts?

If your museum does not have answers to questions such as these, it is missing out on a wealth of information that can identify important issues that may discourage visitors from returning - and from recommending that others visit your museum. The American Association for State and Local History's new Performance Management Program can help your museum learn from its visitors!

Performance Management is a program designed to help museums measure visitor satisfaction. The program provides a complete package of services including:

- A tested survey instrument with three customized questions reserved to fit your museum's needs
- Training workshops and materials to help launch your survey
- Professional tabulation and analysis of your survey data
- Assistance from Performance Management staff in reviewing and interpreting the easy-to-ready reports that are compiled specifically for your museum
- Workshops and resource materials that help your museum incorporate survey results into your museum's strategic plan and fundraising efforts such as grant proposals
- Help from Performance Management staff in digging deeper to get to the root of issues that negatively affect your visitors' experiences

(Cont'd next page)

- Benchmarking information collected from museums across the country that helps your museum compare its survey results with other institutions of similar size and scope
- Confidentiality of all survey data collected from your museum's visitors

AASLH member institutions receive the complete survey package for \$3,500 – well below the cost of hiring an outside firm to conduct a tested, scientific visitor survey and often less than what museums pay a consultant to give them just one person's opinion of their museum. There are currently two annual survey rounds to choose from – January (deadline to sign up is January 1) and June (deadline to sign up is June 15). Sign up now to take part in the next upcoming survey round – only a limited number of museums can participate! Performance Management staff will guide your museum through the entire process including personal consultations to determine three customized survey questions, interpreting survey results, and determining root causes for issues raised by survey data.

To sign up for the next survey round or to request further information about the Performance Management Program, visit the AASLH web site at <www.aaslh.org> or contact Cherie Cook, Project Director, at cook@aaslh.org or at 316/721-9956.

2006 CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM CHANGES

Heritage Preservation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) are pleased to announce upcoming changes to the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) starting in FY2006. The changes will allow more museums to participate and will streamline the application process.

CAP will be administered through a cooperative agreement between IMLS and Heritage Preservation with two modifications to the eligibility criteria. The number of days per year a museum must be open to the public will change from 120 days to 90 days, and a second assessment (a re-CAP) will be available to organizations who participated in CAP prior to 1999.

CAP is a program for small to mid-sized museums of all types, from art museums to zoos, that provides a broad assessment of the museum's collections, environmental conditions, and historic buildings by a conservation professional. Following the assessment, the conservation professional provides a written report recommending priorities to improve collections care. This report assists museums in developing strategies, long-range planning, and fundraising activities to improve the care of their collections.

In addition to receiving a conservation collections assessment, museums with buildings older than 50 years are also offered an architectural assessment to identify priorities

for the care of the building(s). Museums with small to mid-sized collections are most appropriate for the CAP program, which is limited to a two-day site visit. Larger museums are encouraged to contact IMLS for information on the Conservation Project Support (CPS) grant. CPS grants fund a variety of conservation projects, including general conservation surveys that can accommodate a lengthier visit by a conservation professional.

CAP applications have been sent to museums on the CAP mailing list and are available on the web at <www.heritagepreservation.org>. The postmark deadline for applications is **December 1, 2005**. Eligible participants will be accepted into the program on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact Kate Marks at <kmarks@heritagepreservation.org>, 202/233-0831 or Maria Galban <mgalban@heritagepreservation.org>, 202/233-0832.

DONATED AND DISCOUNTED SOFTWARE/HARDWARE FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Nonprofit organizations often have little money to purchase software and hardware for their operations and rarely have staff dedicated to its technology needs. TechSoup Stock was created to help nonprofits solve these problems by distributing donated or deeply discounted software and hardware products to eligible nonprofits in a supportive, educational environment. Fees for most products available from TechSoup are 4-20% of retail costs.

The site not only offers the products but also information and articles on how to choose the right products and how to install them properly. If your organization is in need of technology products visit <www.techsoup.org/stock> to see if they can help you.

HISTORIC ILLINOIS CALENDAR AVAILABLE

The 2006 edition of the *Historic Illinois Calendar* is available for purchase through the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The calendar features twelve photos of the interiors of twelve historic sites located across the state. Each photo carries a brief description of the site and where it is located. Nels Akerlund, an architectural photographer from Rockford, and the Springfield photography firm of Daniels & Ackerman shot the high-quality images.

The 13-by-10-inch 2006 calendar is designed to provide space to record birthdays, appointments, and upcoming

events. The design rivals that found in bookstores for nearly twice the price. The cost is \$7 each, or \$5 each for orders of five or more, an economical price that makes the calendar a popular choice for gift giving.

To purchase calendars, please send a check or money order to *Historic Illinois Calendar*, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701-1512. Preview the calendar on our website: <www.Illinois-History.gov>. Please note, if you subscribe to the bimonthly *Historic Illinois* you will receive one *Calendar* as part of your subscription.

The twelve featured sites are:

St. Peter's Evangelical Danish Lutheran Church,
Sheffield (Bureau)
Sandwich City Hall, Sandwich (DeKalb)
Rock Island Lines Passenger Station, Rock Island (Rock Island)
Central Park Bandstand, Orion (Henry)
Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago (Cook)
Administration Building, Eureka College, Eureka (Woodford)
Anderson Hall, Principia College, Elsah (Jersey)
Haskell Playhouse, Alton (Madison)
Brooks Catsup Bottle Water Tower, Collinsville (Madison)
Union Lookout, Jonesboro vicinity (Union)
Pierre Martin House, North Dupo (St. Clair)

ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AMENDS OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Museums and other cultural agencies that are administered by local or state government with websites maintained by their own staff will be required to provide the following:

- agenda of a regular meeting, until the meeting is conducted
- the annual schedule of regular meetings, until public notice of another schedule is approved
- notice of a regular meeting, until the meeting is conducted
- minutes of an open meeting, for at least 60 days after posting

The amendments were introduced in the Senate by Senator John J. Cullerton of the 6th District in Chicago as Senate Bill 0226 and sponsored in the House by Representatives Paul D. Froehlich of the 56th District in Schaumburg and Monique D. Davis of the 27th District in Chicago. The amendment was approved by Governor Rod Blagojevich in June.

AASLH LAUNCHES CAREER CENTER

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) is pleased to announce the launch of the AASLH Career Center, a new online resource designed to help you find job opportunities in the field of state and local history.

The new and enhanced AASLH Career Center will provide you with:

- a. Job search control - quickly and easily find relevant industry job listings and sign up for automatic email notification of new jobs that match your criteria
- b. Easy job application - apply online and create a password-protected account for managing your job search
- c. Resume posting - make your resume available to employers in the industry, confidentially if you choose
- d. Best of all, AASLH Career Center is available FREE to job seekers.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to connect with the industry's best employers. Visit <www.aaslh.org> to learn more.

**Get Your Grant
Application in on time!!!**

**IAM Grant Application
Deadline:**

NOVEMBER 1, 2005

**Visit the IAM website to
download form at**

www.illinoismuseums.org

CREATING LONG-LASTING INKJET PRINTS

By Monique Fischer, Senior Conservator, Photographs, Northeast Document Conservation Center

The Sales of digital imaging products have finally surpassed those for film, and tremendous growth has been made in digital photography during the past decade. There are now affordable scanners, digital cameras, high-quality inkjet printers, and many other output devices for creating color prints (Wilhelm February 2002:32). Fortunately, as the technology is rapidly changing, the quality of materials is improving. Both professional and amateur photographers can benefit from this technology to create color prints from digitized files that are now, according to the research of Henry Wilhelm, as long-lasting as chromogenic color photographs (Wilhelm February 2003:33).

There are ways of creating long-lasting prints of digital images

Currently, color prints made from digital files are not considered preservation quality and there are no standards for longevity regarding digital images. However, there are ways of creating long-lasting prints by understanding the materials employed and controlling the conditions where the prints will be stored. The three most important factors that affect the life of a digital print are the quality of materials used, such as the colorant (Dye versus pigment) and paper; the combination of materials used; and afterwards, the storage and display of the prints. The following suggestions are based on the current environmental and storage conditions for traditional photographic media.

Suggestions on Creating and Maintaining Permanence

- Understand independent permanence testing results. For example, visit Henry Wilhelm's website <www.wilhelm-research.com> or a digital printing and imaging resource website <www.dpandi.com>. Join discussions about the longevity of these prints, such as the one on archival inkjet printing at <<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/archivalcolor>>. The new technology is challenging the traditional ideas about photography. One needs to adjust expectations.
- Select long-lasting colorants. For example, pigment-based inks are more stable than dye-based inks but tend to have a smaller color range. Currently, companies are improving the permanence of dye-based inks and the color range of the pigment-based inks.
- Select archival paper such as 100% cotton rag. For coated papers use acid-free, buffered, and lignin-free paper bases for long-term stability.
- Match media and paper correctly to get the optimum permanence (see information from Wilhelm's test results <www.wilhelm-research.com> and manufacturers <www.epson.com> and <<http://USA.canon.com/html/conCprSupport.jsp?type=lightfast>> recommendations). Permanence tests are specific to a particular type of ink and dye on a specific paper/substrate. Substituting materials will not yield the same results. Third party inks, even though less expensive may not provide the same value. If print quality and durability are a concern, it is best to use the brand-name inks.
- After printing, keep prints away from light or display behind glass, which decreases airflow, fading from gasses, and some UV exposure problems.
- Cold storage (near 32 F) of these materials is recommended as with other traditional color materials. This may especially be important during this transitional period given the limited life expectancy and lack of knowledge of digital images.
- If cold storage is not possible, store prints in a dark, dry, and cool place. Keep humidity fluctuations to a minimum. The conditions should be 68 F (20 C) or lower with 30-40% RH.
- Store prints flat using archival materials that have met the requirements of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO Standard 14523:1999). Place prints in individual enclosures. Don't use paper clips, rubber bands, or pressure-sensitive tape.
- Keep prints away from oxidizing materials, such as household chemicals.

This article appears courtesy of the Northeast Document Conservation Center from the Spring 2005, Vol. 14, No. 1 issue of *News*.

LEARNING RESOURCES

(Cont'd from page 4)

KELLOGG SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT OFFERS NONPROFIT EXECUTIVE EDUCATION SERIES

The Kellogg School of Management is offering several courses for nonprofit professionals. These include:

Capacity Building
October 16-18, 2005

Leveraging Your Resources Through Partnering
November 6-8, 2005

Fundraising and Marketing II
December 4-6, 2005

Financial Empowerment
January 22-24, 2006

For more information contact Jane Hoffman at 847/467-5969, email: <j-hoffman@kellogg.northwestern.edu> or visit <www.kellogg.northwestern.edu/nonprofitexced>.



SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON ILLINOIS HISTORY ANNOUNCED

The state's largest meeting devoted to the history of the Prairie State is scheduled for October 27 and 28 at the Prairie Capital Convention Center in downtown Springfield. The Conference on Illinois History offers local history studies, teacher workshops, roundtable discussions, and the presentation of academic papers.

This year's featured speakers include Carl J. Ekberg, professor emeritus at Illinois State University, an expert on the French in colonial Illinois; Darroch Greer, a documentary filmmaker who has produced numerous documentary films for PBS, the History Channel, and the Discovery Channel; and Edna Greene Medford, associate professor of history at Howard University, who is a nationally recognized scholar and frequent lecturer on African Americans in slavery and freedom.



Conference attendees can choose between thirty-five sessions on a range of topics, including Abraham Lincoln, nineteenth-century politics, Chicago, German immigrants, the French in Illinois, and numerous others. For a full list of sessions, check the website (address listed below).

The Conference is accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education for continuing professional development units for teachers.

To ensure that you receive a registration form and program for the conference, contact Donna Lawrence, IHPA, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701-1512, by email at <donna_lawrence@ihpa.state.il.us>, or by phone at 217/785-7933. Additional Conference details can be found on the internet at <www.Illinois-History.gov/conference.htm>.

THE PEOPLE, THE CULTURE, THE TIME=THE PLACE

(Cont'd from page 3)

A good example of this thematic approach to site interpretation is the permanent exhibit at Fort de Chartres State Historic Site. From the very beginning, the design team realized that the fort represented more than just a military establishment. In fact it was the center of governmental and judicial proceedings for the entire area. Ideally situated on the Mississippi River, it was an important commercial and agricultural entrepot not just for the immediate area but for all of Louisiana. The fort served also as a social and religious outpost for the small outlying French settlements in the region.

Clearly, the story of Fort de Chartres is complex and multifaceted in scope and meaning. It is composed of many themes and stories. When presented and formatted together these various themes provide a more accurate and in-depth perspective and overview of the people, the time, and the culture of eighteenth century French society in the Illinois Country. The Fort's story, like so many others, can not be adequately explained in a one dimensional date driven manner or timeline format. It requires a coordinated multi-thematic approach in order to support and expand the overall interpretive organizing principle. In other words, this interpretive method can present the themes and stories in a more evocative and visitor friendly manner, thus increasing the chances for public interaction with the exhibit.

At the center of this format is always the physical environment: the house, the fort, the farm, the battlefield, etc., in other words, place. It is the focus for everything that follows within the educational and interpretive programming of the site. As the overlapping concentric circles (see diagram) suggest, place is composed of various elements that have affected the site and made it what it is. The people, the culture of the people, and the time period in which the people lived are all elements of the story. They are interrelated and inseparable components of the site. They serve as recognizable sign posts to guide the visitor through the sites interpretive story.

This thematic construction takes these sign posts and wraps them around the central story. It helps define the story in a multidimensional manner based upon the various themes that makeup the story. It is varied in content, always directing

the visitor back to the central message of the site. This type of exhibit is designed with the visitor in mind, in order to provide the most information in an enjoyable and engaging manner. In so doing, it forms a creative interaction between the visitor and the exhibit.

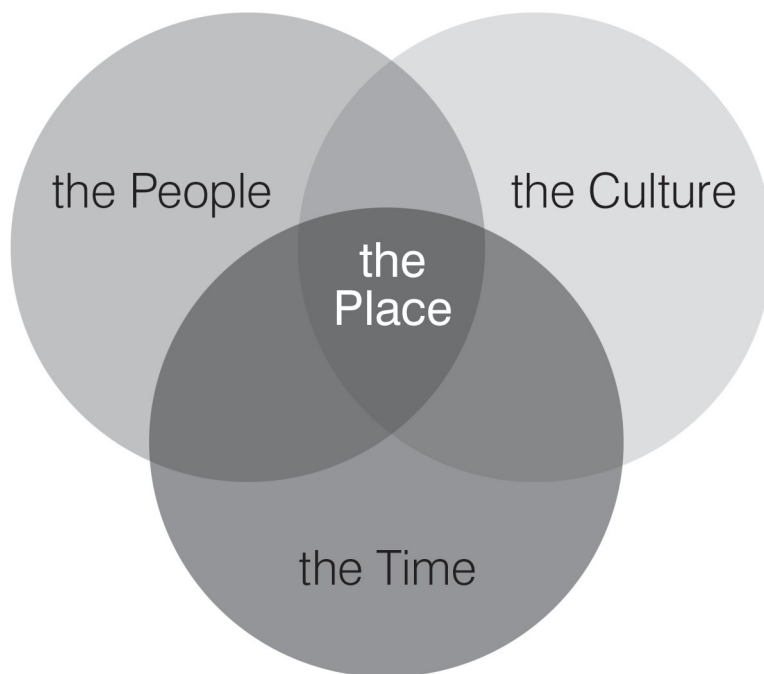
By contrast, we can relate this to our present-day lives. Our culture and the time in which we live impact and influence all of us. We accept these influences without thinking about

them. The past and the present are connected by an accumulation of factors and events which constitute our shared experience as human beings. Our lives are much more varied and complex than what is represented by a simple time line. In terms of our shared experiences, the historical past is really closer than we realize. When we compare it to our everyday lives and experiences, we can realize a shared connectedness and understanding of the past, the people, and the place. Even though the time and culture have

changed, we still share the same life experiences. The thematic approach accepts this concept as an effective organizing principle in the process of developing visitor oriented interpretive exhibits.

David Carr writes in *The Promise of Cultural Institutions* that our mission is to, "transform the casual visitor into the thoughtful learner." He goes on to say, "cultural institutions exist to feed the mature hunger for information and to nurture the capacity to ask questions, evaluate data, and interpret our lived experiences."

The bond of communications exerts a strong emotional draw between the cultural institution and its public. Our ultimate goal at historic sites is to establish this bond of communications. Once established, people tend to view the historic site as a place of importance and meaning. When people identify with the place it is usually because they have learned the story or at least some of the story and it resonates with them in a unique and meaningful way.



Illinois Association of Museums

Annual Report 2004-2005

President's Report

IAM is eleven years old now, still a kid, but gaining maturity each year. It is still capable of much growth and just as you were at the age of eleven, it can be anything it wants to be and is shaped by everything happening around it.

The effects and aftermath of Hurricane Katrina have reminded us all of how vulnerable our institutions are; how vulnerable our artifacts are; and how valuable they are. IAM members continue to receive education and training in preservation, historic housekeeping, record keeping and emergency procedures which are essential to the continued existence of our museums and collections. This organization will continue to grow and to provide member services which are priceless.

Membership

IAM's membership now stands at 495 with 381 institutional members, ninety-seven individual members, five student members, and twelve corporate members. We continue to reach out to the smaller and midsized museums around the state but we also attract memberships from larger institutions. We include history museums, house museums, state sites, historical societies, zoos, arboreta, botanical gardens, art museums, science museums and centers, and children's museums. We serve all manner of organization/government types from park districts, city museums, county facilities, universities, nonprofit groups, forest preserves and museum districts.

All this diversification brings a richness to our meetings that is invaluable. As we meet to network, learn and solve our problems, we help each other through our past experiences and with a wide variety of resources which we bring to the table. Where else could so much value be obtained for so little money?

Reference Services

Consisting of 661 titles, our lending library continues to be well used. During the past year we have loaned reference materials to more than forty-five organizations and individuals. Our members were able to borrow these books, tapes, pamphlets and other references as a benefit of membership. The *First Aid Kit for Starting Right*, loaded with information on starting a nonprofit cultural organization, was sent to numerous individuals and new facilities. Our IAM staff answered hundreds of reference calls and made site visits to assist members with questions on best practices and other issues.

Publications

The 2005 edition of the *IAM Directory of Illinois Museums* was sent to every organization listed in its pages, with two copies going to members. The resource was also distributed to all libraries across the state with the assistance of the State Library and to the Illinois General Assembly. Translating to the delivery of more than 7,000 copies.

Four timely issues of the newsletter were sent to members and the Illinois General Assembly with news about issues of importance to Illinois museums, learning opportunities, exhibits and events in museums across the state, and the coveted *How to...* in the center pull-out section. This year's *How to...* series included:

1. *How to...Find Friends in High Places, Pt III*
2. *How to...Create Community Exhibits*
3. *How to...Do Oral History*
4. *How to...Develop A Collections Plan*

Also published this year was *Here's to a Few Dangerous Ideas* by Annual Conference keynote speaker Brian Crockett as part of the *IAM Presents* series.

Programming

2004 Conference

Danville hosted a lively and well attended Annual Conference, "Celebrate Museums," in 2004. Brian C. Crockett, former co-director and co-founder of the Smithsonian's Museums on Main Street program, proved a thought-provoking keynote speaker with a touch of humor. Visits to local host organizations such as the Vermilion County Museum, the Vermilion County War Museum, Vermilion County Conservation District, and the Fischer Theatre were among the highlights of the meeting.

2004 Spring Workshop

"Great Tours" was held in Lockport at the Gaylord Building on April 11th. The workshop was co-sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Canal Corridor Association and funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Participants received a copy of the acclaimed book *Great Tours! Thematic Tours and Guide Training for Historic Sites*.

Future Conferences

IAM is pleased to be in the Tri-Cities communities of Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles for our fall conference in 2005. Our theme will be "Fertile Ground: Cultivating Cultural Resources for Museums." Planning is well underway with the Association of Midwest Museums and the Iowa Museums Association to bring a wonderful conference in autumn of 2006 in the Quad Cities.

Scholarships and Grants to Assist our Members

Thirty-four applicants requested \$16,620 from the IAM Museum Grants program. \$11,000 in grants was available. Applications for the next grant cycle were sent out in August with a November 1, 2005, deadline.

Museum Day

Museum Day was held March 9th with seventy-one organizations represented. A total of fifty legislators were contacted. Museum day continues to grow and those attending feel it benefits them immensely. Our voice in advocacy for our cause continues to be heard as this organization and its members speak up.

Governance

IAM continues to be appreciative of the financial support of Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. As part of long range planning, a few years ago, the IAM board voted to set up an endowment fund for future income, should a time come when the group does not have the financial support of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The endowment began with \$5000 and has now grown to more than \$55,000 in these eleven years.

Thank you to our members and board for their devotion to making IAM the organization that it is, serving the museums of Illinois, large and small. Remember it is your organization. You mold it to fit your needs with your input. Keep up the good work.

Claudia J. Dant, President

Acknowledgements

IAM would like to thank the following in kind and Endowment fund donors:

Dona R. Bachman

Beth Close

Decatur Public Library Foundation

Decatur Westminster Presbyterian Church

Darrell Green

Diane Gutenkauf

Jaroslav J. Hankewych

Janice Klein

Barbara Mann

Nancy Maze

Multimedia Technologies, Inc.

Sarah E. Neely

George Rabb

Sue Richter

Judith A. Robins

Keith Sculle

Mary Turner

Ann Wright-Parsons

**Illinois Association of Museums
Financial Report
2004-2005**

Assets as of June 30, 2005

Endowment Fund	
Certificates of Deposit	\$46,725.00
Interest	<u>\$ 8,703.17</u>
Endowment Fund Total	\$55,428.17
Operating Fund	
Checking Account	\$ 6,519.24
E-Pay Funds	\$ 1,144.07
Money Market Account	<u>\$13,281.29</u>
Operating Fund Total	\$20,944.60
Total Assets	\$76,372.77

Budget Report

	Actual 2004-2005	Budget 2004-2005	Budget 2005-2006
Income:			
Annual Conference			
Registrations	\$ 5,985.00	\$ 8,550	\$11,200
Sponsor	\$ -0-	\$ 600	\$ 600
Vendor	\$ 700.00	\$ 600	\$ 900
Awards	\$ 405.00	\$ 500	\$ 400
Dues			
Corporate	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Individual	\$ 3,425.00	\$ 3,150	\$ 3,500
Institutional 1	\$ 9,030.00	\$ 7,800	\$ 8,800
Institutional 2	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,250
Institutional 3	\$ 5,550.00	\$ 5,625	\$ 5,625
Institutional 4	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Student	\$ 90.00	\$ 150	\$ 150
Endowment	\$ 1,120.00	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,200
Interest	\$ 212.49	\$ 200	\$ 200
Mailing List Sales	\$ 55.00	\$ 20	\$ 50
Merchandise	\$ 108.40	\$ 100	\$ 100
Museum Day	\$ 3,890.00	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,000
Refunds	\$ 100.00	\$ 5	\$ 350
Scholarship Gifts	\$ 434.00	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
Workshop	<u>\$ 2,730.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,300</u>	<u>\$ 1,300</u>
Total Income	\$41,534.89	\$41,600	\$46,625

Expenses:

Administrative Costs	\$ 960.88	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Advocacy	\$ 231.25	\$ 500	\$ 250
Annual Conference			
Food	\$ 2,547.48	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,000
Publications	\$ 1,977.50	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,600
Refunds	\$ 120.00	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Speakers' Fees	\$ 1,108.15	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,000
Supplies	\$ 83.82	\$ 500	\$ 500
Transportation	\$ 261.67	\$ 500	\$ 1,500
Rental	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 1,100
Awards	\$ 136.28	\$ 500	\$ 150
Endowment	\$ -0-	\$ 6,000 ¹	\$ 1,300
Lending Library	\$ 628.69	\$ 600	\$ 500
Marketing	\$ -0-	\$ 700	\$ 400
Membership	\$ 692.82	\$ 700	\$ 700
Museum Day	\$ 2,743.55	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,800
Museum Grants	\$10,162.08	\$11,000	\$ 9,000
Postage	\$ 3,554.91	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Professional Memberships	\$ 265.00	\$ 250	\$ 285
Publications			
Directory	\$16,331.40	\$15,000	\$ 8,000 ²
Newsletter & How to...	\$ 6,560.25	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,500 ³
Refunds	\$ 45.00	\$ 100	\$ 50
Scholarships	\$ 147.08	\$ 1,300	\$ 840
Special Projects	\$ 327.82	\$ 400	\$ 350
Survey	\$ 23.68	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,475 ⁴
Website Maintenance	\$ -0-	\$ 300	\$ 200
Workshop			
Brochure	\$ -0-	\$ 200	\$ 200
Food	\$ 928.05	\$ 500	\$ 500
Refund	\$ 200.00	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Speaker fees	\$ -0-	\$ 200	\$ 200
Supplies	\$ 1,118.45	\$ 200	\$ 200
Total Expenses	\$51,155.81	\$71,600	\$55,100
Total Income-Expenses	(\$ 9,620.92)	(\$ 30,000)	(\$ 8,475)

Footnotes

¹ A Certificate of Deposit was purchased for this amount in Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and will be reflected in that year's budget.

² Because the Directory is bi-annual, this will not be spent this year but held to cover half the cost of the 2006 issue in FY 2006-2007.

³ This is a drop because IHPA will pay the cost of printing the July issue.

⁴ This figure is carried over from FY 2004-2005.

How Would Federal Formula Grants for Museums Work?

The federal government uses formula grants to the states to achieve broad national purposes while allowing for regional and local differences. Such grants leverage, rather than replace, state and local funding for those purposes.

Libraries, historic preservation, the arts, and many social and health services receive such funding. The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) is inviting state, regional and national museum service providers and their members to join with it in obtaining such funding for museums. The Council of State Historic Records Coordinators is leading a similar effort for archives. (Contact Kathleen Roe <kroe@coshrc.org> for details.)

It takes two federal legislative actions to create such funding. The first is authorizing legislation that sets the broad purpose of the grants, the maximum amount that may be spent, and the formula for dividing the funds among the states. Usually the formula includes a base amount for every state with the remainder being divided among the states based on an indicator of relative need, such as population. The second legislative action is the annual appropriation that determines how much will be spent on the grants each year.

Each state determines the state agency that will accept the money and ensure its expenditure in accordance with the federal authorizing law, as well as federal rules and accounting principles.

The authorizing legislation sets the requirements each state must meet. This includes the ratio of state and local matching dollars for the federal funds and may include “maintenance of effort”—keeping state funding at existing levels. It requires statewide planning. It may set the composition of the group that makes the decisions about what projects and organizations receive funding. It may require that a percentage of the funds be spent for a specific purpose, such as supporting small museums.

Because the federal requirements are broad, each state must use an inclusive statewide process to develop a multi-year plan that assesses the needs of the state and how the grant funds will be used to meet those needs. That plan is approved and monitored by the federal government. The plan could include statewide initiatives, such as a series of educational workshops. It could include re-grants or consultants to serve individual organizations. It might focus on capital projects, care of collections, Internet access or a combination of goals. Each year the state reports progress on its plan; and at designated intervals it is required to develop a new plan.

AASLH has formed a task force to obtain federal formula grants for museums. For details, visit the advocacy section of <www.aaslh.org>. The current focus of the task force is inviting national museum service providers to be part of the effort. Those who agree to participate will join the task force on the Coalition Committee that drafts the proposed authorizing legislation and then leads the legislative effort. The Council of Regions will have two seats on the Committee, and the National Association of State Museum Associations will have four. We hope to have everyone on board by next spring.

In the meantime, we invite your questions, suggestions and concerns. All will be essential as the Coalition Committee begins its work. Contact Terry Davis at <davis@aaslh.org> or me at <clarkss@mi.gov> to share your thoughts.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sandra Clark, Director
Michigan Historical Center

REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 1

Directors: Debra Tayes, Southern Illinois Art Gallery, Whittington; Mike Jones, General John A. Logan Museum, Murphysboro; Judy Belleville, Belleville Museum of Labor & Industry, Belleville.



A black smith shop originally built in 1856, in the community of Millstadt, has recently come back to St. Clair County under the care of the **Labor and Industry Museum** in Belleville. The

shop, built by Peter Oldendorph, has been returned by the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. The gift includes the bricks, grinding wheels, anvil, bellows, barrels, and tools that were once displayed at the World's Fair. The structure is located behind the main facility. A big event is planned to celebrate the opening of the facility. Stay tuned!

The illustrations from Mark Twain's books *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* make up the exhibit *Norman Rockwell's Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn*. The spirit and energy of Twain's characters are brought to life by great American artist Norman Rockwell in this important exhibit in the Children's Gallery at the **Cedarhurst Center for the Arts** in Mt. Vernon. The exhibit closes November 6, 2005.

Thanks to the efforts of the **Cahokia Mounds Museum Society** another precious archeological resource has been saved. The Sam Chucalo Mound, a prehistoric mound in the area of **Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site**, has been acquired by the Society. The Society quickly provided funds needed to meet a commitment to the family who had owned the property to fence the property. Their condition met, the mound now comes under the care of the State Historic Site and the State of Illinois.



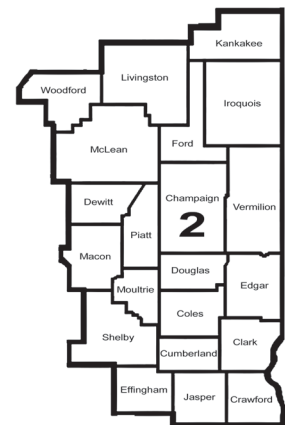
The Photo appears in the McLean County Museum of History's exhibition *Prairie Thunder*. © Bruce Meyer, Bloomington *Pantograph* photojournalist.

The **Wabash County Museum** is moving to new quarters this fall. The museum district has purchased the former Cowling Furniture store at 320 Market Street in Mt. Carmel about one block from its present location in a historic house. The purchase of the 12,000 square foot building includes a brick courtyard style park on an adjoining property which can be used for outdoor displays and activities. Renovations are presently underway on the basement to convert to archival storage, office and workshop. Plans are to house an art school which will open in the winter and to develop a kids hands on area on the lower level. The opening exhibit will be a time line of the county and will feature many items from the permanent collection which were too large to be displayed in the other facility. Folk singer Judy Cook will help to kick off the new exhibit with her performance on October 9.

REGION 2

Directors: Norm Winger, Prairie Aviation Museum, Bloomington; Barbara Oehlschlaeger-Garvey, Early American Museum, Mahomet; Jeff Tish, Rock Springs Environmental Center, Decatur.

Kit Morice has been named the Museum Educator of the Year by the Illinois Art Education Association for 2005. Morice is the Curator of Education at the **Tarble Arts Center**, Eastern Illinois University. She is responsible for a variety of educational and outreach programs. These



include the Fall and Spring 5th Grade Enrichments, the Junior/Senior High Art Enrichment, the Arts-In-Education month-long visiting artist residency to area schools, the Tarble's roster of non-credit classes and workshops for preschoolers through

adults, and the volunteer docent program. Morice also assists with the Children's Art Activities for the Celebration arts festival, the Cultivating Creativity: Consolidated Communications Children's Art Exhibit touring program, and plans group trips to see major art exhibitions in Chicago and St. Louis. Morice received her MFA in printmaking, with museology, course work from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. She holds an MA and BA in Studio Art from Eastern Illinois University.

Prairie Thunder: 80 Years of Midwestern Railroad Photography, an exhibit on display at the **McLean County Museum of History**, features more than just "train pictures," but captured moments of human and historical interest. They include a selection of dramatic industrial scenes from the Chicago & Alton Railroad's main shops from 1934 to 1950. The exhibit includes over seventy-five images from Bloomington *Pantograph* photojournalists Bruce Meyer and Steve Smedley. The exhibit closes January 11, 2006.

The 8th Annual Piatt County Barn Tour will be held October 7-9, 2005. The tour, sponsored by the **Piatt County Museum**, will begin at the Museum in Monticello. It is a self-guided tour and comprehensive tour books will be available for purchase. The tour is a 30-mile round trip of some of the best historic barns and sites in the county. Call 217/762-4731 for more information.

Balance and Power: Performance and Surveillance in Video Art will open at the **Krannert Art Museum and Kinkhead Pavilion** in Champaign on October 22, 2005. The exhibit comes at a time when the nation is preoccupied with heightened security and surveillance, and the public is fascinated by Reality TV with its open and surreptitious video exposure of participants, the boundaries between *performance*, voluntary acting for the camera, and *surveillance*, involuntary recording on camera by power systems with an interest in the movement of citizens, become blurred. Since the earliest days of video art, artists have negotiated the question of when surveillance becomes performance (and vice versa) and these concepts continue to be central to many video artists today. This exhibition, which examines both the early days of video art and current practices, is an attempt to understand the complex relationship between the issues of performance, surveillance, and power. Included in the exhibition are works by such internationally recognized video artists as Antenna, Jim Campbell, and Julia Scher; and the premiere of Jordan Crandall's new film, *Homefront*. The exhibition closes on December 31, 2005.



Jordan Crandall, *Homefront*, 2005, video still © Jordan Crandall. On exhibit at the Krannert Art Museum and Kinkhead Pavilion.

REGION 3

Directors: Kate N. Schureman, Lakeview Museum, Peoria; Cindy Upchurch, Lewis & Clark State Historic Site, Hartford; Barb Wilkenson, Quincy Museum

The **Quincy Art Center** recently held its biggest fundraiser of the year, the Beaux Arts Ball. This was the 75th year of the ball which dates back to the 1930s. To celebrate the milestone, the event featured displays of dresses worn over the seventy-five year history of the event as well as pictures from prior events.

The event was a big success.

The **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation** and UIS will present the Inaugural Jim Edgar Lecture at Sangamon Auditorium in Springfield on Monday, October 24th at 8 pm. The address will feature renowned historian David McCullough. McCullough, author of the best-seller *1776*, is twice winner of the National Book Award and twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize. He has been called a "master of the art of narrative history." Tickets are \$10 and are available by telephoning the Sangamon Auditorium Box Office at 800/207-6960.

Come enjoy Camp River Dubois by candlelight at the **Lewis and Clark State Historic Site** in Hartford. Starting at 5:30pm guests may stroll through the camp immersing themselves in the shadows of the candles. Historic re-enactors will be on hand to interact with visitors. For more information contact the Site at 618/251-5811.

The Holiday Market will open Saturday, November 19th

from 9am – 8pm and Sunday, November 20th from 1-4pm at the **Lincoln Memorial Gardens** in Springfield. Nature crafts, handmade ornaments, pottery, glassware, books, toys, jewelry, and more will be available both days. Stay on Saturday evening for night hikes, hot chocolate and marshmallows around the campfire. For more information call 217/529-1111.



REGION 4

Directors: Beth Carvey-Stewart, Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island; Tom Stalf, Niabi Zoo, Coal Valley; Lewis Crampton, Burpee Museum of Natural History, Rockford.

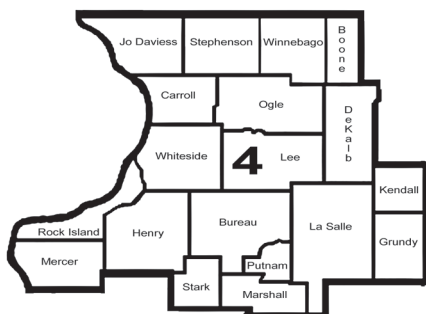
Burpee Museum of Natural History and Discovery Center Museum have announced the receipt of over \$277,000 earmarked for their “Connecting

Our Future” expansion project. Congressman **Don Manzullo** (R-Egan) secured the funds during last year’s appropriation process. The funding, released this week, comes from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2005 Appropriations Act. The bricks and mortar grant will help offset costs of construction, including architectural fees. The project will boost tourism in downtown Rockford and provide needed jobs for area residents while enhancing the cultural assets along the Rock River and providing educational, economic, and entertainment benefits to visitors and Rockford residents. With additional fundraising from the public, the project hopes to procure a total of 12.5 million. Contributions are tax deductible. For more information contact the capitol campaign office at 815/987-0755.

Confessions of a Dadaist: The Era of Existence 1979-2005, Part II: The Imagery of Helene Smith-Romer will be on display at the **Northern Illinois University Art Museum** in DeKalb until December 11, 2005. The exhibition is a mid-career retrospective of Chicago artist Helene Smith-Romer which expands and investigates the Dadaist approach to life from a contemporary feminist perspective. Call 815/753-1936 for more information.

The **LaSalle County Historical Society** is hosting its 36th Annual Lantern Walk and Burgoo Festival on October 8-9, 2005, in Utica. The Saturday Lantern Walk begins as dusk with a tour of historic Utica. Sunday the burgoo festival kicks off at 9am with over 200 craft vendors, lots of food and a raffle. For more information call 815/667-4861.

The **Sheffield Historical Society** recently celebrated the 125th anniversary of the Historic Danish Church in Sheffield. The church, built in 1880 and dedicated on September 12th of that year, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Queen Margrethe II and Prince Henrik of Denmark visited the church in 1976 to mark its restoration. (see photo opposite page)



REGION 5

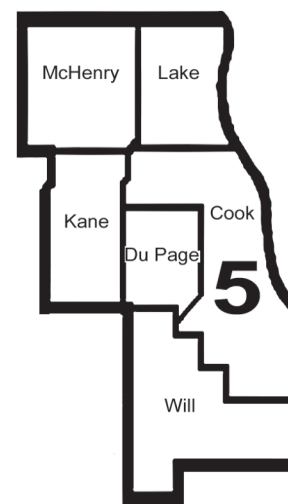
Directors: D. Neil Bremer, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst; Nancy Gher, Streamwood Park District, Streamwood; Brian Hora, Haines House Museum, Waukegan.

The **Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society**, in conjunction with Lake Forest Bank & Trust, has opened *Faces & Places*, a permanent, searchable exhibit that displays treasured family photographs. Participants can take their place in history by submitting a family photograph or photograph of a local residence for a unique community database.

The collection of photographs will be accessible as an interactive exhibit with terminals at the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society and other potential locations such as Lake Forest Bank & Trust and other public locations within Lake Forest and Lake Bluff. Photographs will also be placed on a special *Faces & Places* section of the Historical Society website. The *Faces & Places* program will also include the following seminars during October: “As the Story Goes” a seminar on documenting family reminiscences through Oral History. This seminar will be presented on Wednesday, October 12th at 7pm at the Gorton Community Center by Jan Traficanti, *Life Recollections* Oral History Services; “Echoes of Yesteryear,” a Tour of Lake Forest Cemetery on Sunday, October 16th at 2pm; and “Tracing your Family’s Roots,” a seminar on genealogy presented on Tuesday, October 25th at 7pm at the Gorton Community Center by Carol Knigge, an experienced genealogist and a past President of the Lake County Genealogical Society. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Janice Hack, Executive Director of the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society at 847/234-5253.

The Printmaking of Keith Achepohl, Inspirational Works of Land and Sea is the latest exhibit to open at the **Elmhurst Art Center**. The exhibit, open through January 15, 2006, features a new series of prints and watercolors inspired by Venice, Italy, focusing on seashells and plants, representing life, death, and regeneration. The artist expands printmaking beyond a single technique, beyond the frame, and even beyond the wall to evoke gardens on land and beneath the waves in the exhibition. For more information call 630/834-0202.

Two Region 5 **IAM** members were among eleven nonprofit organizations to receive grants from the **Illinois**



Humanities Council. \$1,500 went to support the **Elgin Public Museum's** "Harvest Story Hayride" and \$2,000 went to support the **Pleasant Home Foundation's** Winter Lecture Series "The Genius of George Maher." Congratulations to both institutions!

The Upper (2nd floor) and Lower Levels of the **DuPage Children's Museum** will be closed during renovation this fall. The Museum is working to optimize the space for visitors by adding new exhibit spaces on the 2nd Floor and new program spaces, snack area, and vending machines on the Lower Level. The main level of the museum will be open and renovations will be completed as quickly as possible.

The **Illinois State Museum's Chicago Gallery** will feature the work of Illinois artists with its exhibition *Art in the Abstract*. The genre of abstraction traces its roots back to the early 20th century with the works of Wassily Kandinsky, Pablo Picasso, Mark Rothko, and Natalie Goncharova. The exhibit runs through February 17, 2006.

With the opening of the 2005-2006 season the **William A. Koehnline Gallery**, located in Oakton Community College in Des Plaines, has changed its name to the **Koehnline Museum of Art**. The change is the result of the continued growth of the art collection and the development of a distinguished program of temporary exhibitions. The Museum, named for Oakton College's first President William A. Koehnline, has a collection of over 400 works of art and is a premier destination for modern and contemporary art in the north Chicago area.

The exhibition *Paths to the Press: Printmaking and American Women Artists, 1910-1960* surveys the graphic work of eighty women including Mary Cassatt, Elizabeth Catlett, Bertha Lum, June Wayne, and others who were active in the medium during the first half of the 20th century. American women printmakers worked both independently and in tandem with their male counterparts creating innovative and arresting works. The exhibit, created at the Kistler Beach Museum of Art in Manhattan, Kansas, will be hosted by the **Block Museum of Art** in Evanston. The exhibit closes December 11, 2005.



Historic St. Peter's Danish Church built in 1880, celebrates its 125th Anniversary in Sheffield. Photo courtesy of the National Register Program, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

On October 9th, 2005 the **Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies** will break ground for its new facility at 610 South Michigan Avenue in Chicago. The new state-of-the-art facility will have a dazzling glass facade and is expected to be completed in 2007. The event will begin at 5pm at the site followed by a cocktail reception and dinner at the Hilton Chicago. For more information call 312/322-1700.

Art collector and philanthropist Bertha Palmer will be on hand at a special program of the **Morton Grove Historical**

Museum in Morton Grove on October 16, 2005, at 2pm. The wife of real estate millionaire Potter Palmer will be portrayed by re-enactor Leslie Goddard of the Evanston Historical Society. For more information call 847/965-0203.

The Restoration Committee of the **Frances Willard Historical Association** has begun preliminary work for the restoration of the den and bedroom of the home. Researchers are hard at work on the Historic Structures Report, recommended by the National Park Service. The report will assess and document the condition of the home and its history including research on original floor and window coverings, light fixtures, and furnishings. The committee hopes the restoration project is completed by July 2006.

The **Palatine Historical Society** will host **Dal Estes**,

lecturer on the experience of the combat soldier experience in WW II, at its general meeting on October 19th, 2005. Estes served at Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, and was commander of a German misplaced persons camp in Czechoslovakia. The presentation, "Tracks Across Europe," will begin at 7pm. For more information call 847/991-6460.

With the 25th Anniversary of the **Wheaton History Center**, Bill Schultz announced the new name of the facility: **Center for History, A Facility of the Wheaton Historic Preservation Council**. The mission and commitment to local history remain unchanged, however the facility will be getting a new address. The former Wheaton Fires Station at 315 W. Front Street will be the new and larger home of the Center.

JOB POSTINGS

VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION AND GUEST SERVICES MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY CHICAGO

Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry (MSI), since its founding in 1933, has inspired the inventive genius of its visitors by presenting captivating and compelling experiences that are real and educational. One of this country's most visited museums, MSI hosts about 1.5 million guests each year, over half of whom come from out of town. With more than 23,000 member households and more school-group visits than any other Chicago cultural institution, MSI is well positioned to fulfill its key mission of inspiring children to reach their highest potential in the sciences.

MSI seeks a vice president of education and guest services to lead the creation and management of a full range of compelling educational programs and to ensure that museum guests are welcomed with the highest possible level of service and attention. This is a senior-level position, reporting to the president and CEO, serving as a member of his executive staff, and leading and managing a division of one-hundred employees and over four-hundred volunteers. A B.A. degree and fifteen to twenty years relevant experience are required. Experience with program and product development, marketing analysis, marketing and customer service are highly desirable. Museum or science education experience as well as proven ability to manage staff and budget are also a plus.

For those interested in learning more, please visit The Himmelfarb Group (search consultants) website, <www.himmelfarbgroup.com>.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PEORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PEORIA

Job Function

The Executive Director has the responsibility to take leadership in implementing the mission of the Peoria Historical Society—To preserve and celebrate Peoria's story. This includes responsibility for supervision of the staff and administration of the office of the Peoria Historical Society as well as working directly with the Board of Trustees, committee chairman and volunteers of the society. The Executive

Director reports to the President of the Board of Trustees.

Primary Responsibilities

- Administer the functions of the office and the day-to-day operations of the PHS through professional staff, support staff, officers, board, and volunteers.
- Hire, supervise, and evaluate staff.
- Oversee two historic houses and PHS collections.
- Become familiar with the leading role played by PHS over the past five years in developing the CIRM collaborative museum concept.
- Coordinate staff with Board of Trustees.
- Attend committee/board meetings and all PHS functions.
- Provide leadership in fund raising activities.
- Work with treasurer to develop annual budget.
- Serve as writer/editor to various PHS publications.
- Work in collaboration with the Peoria Convention & Visitors Bureau and other local historical societies to promote PHS programs, including public speaking.
- Provide support to the Board by assisting with meetings, preparing reports, recommending policy and implementing those policies that are approved and communicating with staff members.

Qualifications

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is desirable.
- Should have an interest in, and a "feel" for, history. Specific knowledge of the history of the Peoria region would be a plus, but is not a necessity.
- Dedicated to the mission of PHS and seeing the mission reflected in the Central Illinois Regional Museum.
- Experience as an administrator.
- Enjoy working with volunteers and skilled at recruiting, motivating and energizing volunteers.
- Proven communicator with excellent interpersonal and group communication skills.
- Experience with fund raising for not-for-profits and in grant writing.
- Self-starter demonstrating initiative, creativity, and ability to think broadly but with an eye to details.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Well developed public relations skills, notably writing skills.

Salary is competitive. Send resumes with salary history to the Peoria Historical Society, 611 SW Washington St., Peoria, IL 61602, Attn: Search Committee.

<www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org>.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/IT SPECIALIST TAYLOR STUDIOS, INC. RANTOUL

Taylor Studios, Inc., an exhibit design and fabrication firm is seeking a creative, experienced graphic designer with knowledge of Adobe CS Suite. Responsibilities include design and production of exhibit graphics, including graphic text/panels, photomurals, banners, etc. Projects may also include design for electronic media, including Web-based and interactive programs. Three to five years of experience in graphic design a must. Experience with Apple/Windows hardware, software, and networking a plus. Send resume and hard copy of your portfolio to: Taylor Studios, Inc., 1320 Harmon Drive, Rantoul, IL, 61866.

PROJECT MANAGER (ENTRY LEVEL) TAYLOR STUDIOS, INC. RANTOUL

Due to expansion, Taylor Studios, Inc., is seeking an enthusiastic professional who will schedule, direct, budget, coordinate, supervise, and manage projects. The ideal candidate must be highly organized, detail oriented, have exceptional problem solving skills, excellent planning and scheduling abilities, excellent verbal and written communications skills, analytical and math skills, and ability to read construction drawings. College degree is required in management or technical production field. Please send cover letter and resume to: Taylor Studios, Inc., 1320 Harmon Drive, Rantoul, IL, 61866.

EXHIBIT DESIGNER TAYLOR STUDIOS, INC. RANTOUL

Taylor Studios, Inc., an exhibit design and fabrication firm specializing in natural history and unique fabrications (models, murals, environments, installations, etc.) is seeking an experienced professional(two years) with a technical background in drafting and 3-D Design to help create exhibits. Must be technically competent in all areas of dimensional design. Knowledge of VectorWorks/CAD, Form Z, Illustrator CS, and other design software on Macintosh systems is a plus. Must be detail oriented and able to work quickly and independently. Potential for growth in expanding and successful company. Send resume and **hard copy** of your portfolio to: Taylor Studios, Inc., 1320 Harmon Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866. <www.taylorstudios.com>.

ASSISTANT SITE MANAGER GARFIELD FARM MUSEUM LAFOX

1840s Garfield Farm Museum is a working living history site located in the far west Chicago suburbs. MA in historical administration or related fields. Ideal candidate will have a positive attitude, be flexible, and have the ability to be part of cohesive team. Duties include on-site security, animal care, gardening, event planning, interpretation, public relations, prairie restoration, volunteer management, etc. To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to:

Executive Director
Garfield Farm Museum
PO Box 403
Lafox, IL 60147-0403

CURATOR OF DECORATIVE ARTS ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM SPRINGFIELD

The Illinois State Museum, with decorative arts exhibitions at four sites statewide including Chicago, is seeking a Curator of Decorative Arts. Position requires oversight of collections, research, interpretive programs relating to Decorative Arts and history.

Responsibilities: collection development; data system management.; preservation; exhibition organization; writing for publication; responding to public inquiries; generating external funds for research, exhibitions and programs; provide leadership; work as a team member.

Qualifications: Postgraduate degree in American history, art history, museum studies, or related field. Eight years of curatorial experience preferred; strong exhibition and publication record; knowledge of material culture studies; and/or contextual interpretation of decorative arts; success with grant writing and external fund raising; experience and interest in interdisciplinary interpretation; ability to speak enthusiastically and effectively before groups and media; knowledge of audience research and program evaluation, and ability to work as a team leader, to prioritize responsibilities, and meet deadlines.

Salary: Commensurate with education. Benefits: receive twenty days vacation, three days personal leave, twelve days sick, twelve legal holidays each year. Health, dental, vision, life insurance, and retirement contributions provided.

Application: Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, and three letters of references with contact names, addresses, and phone numbers to: Human Resource Office, Illinois State Museum, 502 S. Spring, Springfield, IL 62706-5000, fax 217/782-1254, 217/782-5969, email: <cmontgom@museum.state.il.us> Position available January 2006, or until filled. Submit application by October 31, 2005. Address questions about this position to Kent Smith, Search Chair, 217/782-7440; email: <ksmith@museum.state.il.us>. To review Decorative Arts at ISM go to: <www.museum.state.il.us> click on Exhibits, At Home in the Heartland, and MuseumLink.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OCTAVE CHANUTE AEROSPACE MUSEUM RANTOUL

The Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum (OCAM) in Rantoul is the largest Aviation Museum in Illinois, with extensive collections of aircraft and other aviation artifacts, models, photographs, documents, oral, visual and written histories, and other materials of historical, technical, educational, and artistic significance. The famed 99th Pursuit Squadron ("The Tuskegee Airmen") was formed at the OCAM site in 1941. The Museum is situated in a developing complex that includes the new Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library and the Rantoul Historical Society.

OCAM is seeking an experienced and dynamic individual to provide strong leadership and direction. The executive director is the chief operating officer of the museum, responsible for strategic and operational planning, fundraising, public relations, implementation of board policy, budgeting, marketing, and oversight of daily operations. The executive director reports directly to the Board of Directors and is also responsible for leading, managing, representing, and supporting a museum staff.

Successful candidates must be dedicated to the highest level of professional development and professionalism in all aspects of museum work, demonstrate excellent managerial and leadership skills, possess exemplary oral and written communication skills, and show proven experience in general fundraising, marketing, grant writing, and board relations. Public relations, team building, strong interpersonal skills, fiscal responsibility, are critical skills. Successful candidates must also be able to inspire and lead a diverse cross-section of staff, board members and volunteers. Creative promotional and fundraising capabilities, fresh ideas about successful museum management and vision, a strong personality, and an interest in aviation and space history are pluses. Salary and benefits are negotiable.

Requirements:

Four year degree in museum science, history, anthropology, library science, business management or related field; Master's degree preferred. At least three years practical experience in museum management or administration; five years or more are preferred. Strong skills in a full range of fund raising activities are preferred.

Application Requirements:

Cover letter
Resume
Three writing samples
Portfolio of previous work (projects achievements, etc.)
Contact information for at least three references

This Position will remain open until filled. Highest consideration will be given to applications received before November 15, 2005. Please send inquiries and applications to:

Executive Director Search Committee
Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum
1011 Pacesetter Drive
Rantoul, Illinois 61866-3672
Phone: 217/893-1613, 877/RANTOUL (877/726-8685)
Fax: 217/892-5774
Email: <dirsearch@aeromuseum.org>

CALENDAR

October

7-9

Piatt County Museum,
Monticello. Piatt County Barn and
Historic Sites Tour, 9am-3pm.
217/762-3366.

8

Elmhurst Historical Museum,
Elmhurst. "Graveside Stories
Cemetery Walk," 3:30-7:30pm.
Elm Lawn Cemetery, 401 E. Lake
Street, Elmhurst. 630/833-1457.

12-14

IAM, Annual Conference.
Geneva, St. Charles, and Batavia.
217/524-7080.

14

Center for History, Wheaton.
26th Annual House Walk, 10am-
8:30pm. 630/682-9472.

15

Illinois Humanities Council,
mini-grant deadline. Visit
<www.prairie.org> for details.

16-22

Illinois Arts Week 2005.
<www.state.il.us/iac>.

20

Elmhurst Historical Museum,
Elmhurst. "Women of Courage:
Weaving the Fabric of Their
Lives," free program. 1pm. 630/
833-1457.

24-28

**Association of Midwest
Museums, Annual Conference.**
Cincinnati, Ohio. 314/746-4557.

27-28

**Illinois Historic Preservation
Agency, Conference on Illinois
History, Springfield.** <www.illinois-history.gov> or 217/785-7933.

November

1

**IAM Grant Application
Deadline.**

2-6

Oral History Association,
Annual Meeting, Providence,
Rhode Island.
<oha@dickinson.edu>.

7

Spertus College, Chicago. Open
house for information on Master of
Science in Nonprofit Management.
6pm. 312/322-1707.

15

**IMLS Museums for America
deadline.**

24

Thanksgiving

28

**Southern Illinois Association of
Museums, meeting at White
County Historical Society in
Carmi.** 618/985-3741.

December

1

**Conservation Assessment
Program Deadline.** 202/233-
0800.

3

**Chicago Historical Society and
the Mitchell Museum of the
American Indian, Cultural
Connections: "Looking Like an
American,"** 11:30am and 3:30pm.
312/665-7474.

11

Shorefront, Legacy Fair:
Honoring Our African American
Community, 11am-4pm. 2010
Dewey Avenue, Evanston. 847/
475-5321.

25

Christmas

26

Hanukah begins

31

Discovery Center Museum,
Rockford. "Countdown: 5,4,3,
Too Fun!" 815/963-6769.

January

1

New Year's Day

16

Martin Luther King Day

IAM Board Meeting,
Springfield. 10am.

IAM 2005 AWARD WINNERS

(Cont'd from cover)

Periodicals

Award of Excellence
Wheaton History Center
Navigator

Promotional and Informational Materials

Award of Excellence
Northern Illinois University Art
Museum, DeKalb
"Research" Brochure

Vermilion County Museum Society,
Danville
Volunteer Handbook

Award of Merit
Bartlett History Museum, Bartlett
*Village of Bartlett 2005-2006 Budget
Covers*

Popular Publications
Award of Excellence
Illinois State Museum Chicago Gallery,
Chicago
Chicago's 50 Years of Powwows

Koehnline Museum of Art, Des Plaines
Koehnline Museum of Art Catalog

Award of Merit

Kenilworth Historical Society,
Kenilworth
*The Suburban Ideal: Architecture and
Neighborhoods*

St. Charles Heritage Center, St. Charles
*St. Charles: Culture and Leisure in an
All-American Town*

Scholarly Publications
Superior Achievement Award
Museum of Broadcast
Communications, Chicago
Encyclopedia of Television

Award of Merit
McHenry County Historical Museum,
Union
The Greenwood Book

Special Projects
Superior Achievement Award
Midway Village and Museum Center,
Rockford
Rockford Sock Monkey Campaign

Award of Excellence
Bartlett History Museum, Bartlett
Celebrating Bartlett School

Ethnic Heritage Museum, Rockford
La Posada

Joliet Area Historical Museum, Joliet
*Collectors Showcase and Appraisal
Fair*

Kenilworth Historical Society,
Kenilworth
*View from the Path: Jens Jensen in
Kenilworth*

Museum of Broadcast Communications,
Chicago
Redesigning the MBC Website

Naper Settlement, Naperville
Web Site Improvement Project

St. Charles Heritage Center, St. Charles
Ahrens-Fox Fire Engine

Vermilion County Museum Society,
Danville
Wrought Iron and Railings

Award of Merit
Richland Heritage Museum Foundation,
Olney
Museum Musings



Illinois Association of Museums
1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701

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